



USAID
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KENYA AND EAST AFRICA EDUCATION AND YOUTH

As the responsibility for leadership passes to the next generation, Africa's future and its global competitiveness will be driven by academically gifted and entrepreneurial young people empowered to lead. USAID is providing state of the art education to millions of Kenyan children, expanding educational and employment opportunities for young adults, and preparing a new generation of young African leaders with the skills and mindset to transform the region and the continent.

EARLY-GRADE READING

Reading is a fundamental skill that lays the foundation for all future learning. After rigorous piloting and broad national buy-in from a range of key stakeholders, USAID and the Ministry of Education (MOE) are implementing the Tusome Early Grade Reading program nationally in every public primary school in Kenya. The USAID/MOE partnership, known nationally as Tusome ("Let's Read" in Kiswahili), delivers state of the art instructional methodology and a teacher training program that is building the capacity of Kenya's cadre of teachers and dramatically improving the reading skills of over five million learners throughout the country.

Through Tusome, teachers and learners are utilizing nearly 20 million new Tusome textbooks and learning materials that are reviewed and updated annually. Tusome utilizes an electronic monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system to receive real-time data and provide instructional feedback to teachers and administrators throughout the country to help adjust programmatic approaches. In sum, the technical interventions and methodologies of the larger Tusome activity are producing a new generation of primary school pupils reading at international standards of fluency. Tusome is hailed as an Agency model of scale and sustainability built on deep partnerships, local solutions and tangible return on investment.

PHOTO: FAITH NJOKI / USAID

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Extensive public private partnerships drive the USAID Global Give Back Circle and Wings to Fly activities. These programs empower high-achieving yet impoverished students to continue their education and realize their potential through scholarships, training and mentoring. In addition, the DREAMS Initiative, supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), is helping young women reduce their risk of HIV infection and expand their access to education, health services and livelihoods in target counties.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

In Kenya, some 2.5 million young people are unemployed, and only five percent enter the formal labor market each year. USAID is helping a new generation of young people make the transition from education to employment and successfully compete for jobs. Generation Kenya, a youth workforce development program, teams up with employers to identify skills gaps in target industries and customize job training programs for young people. To date, nearly every Generation graduate has secured employment in their target industry, thus meeting the needs of both unemployed youth and the emerging job market. The Kenya Youth Employment and Skills (K-YES) activity brings together public and private sector leaders to solve Kenya's youth employment challenges and spur local and national economic growth. K-YES connects young people with market-relevant training that translates into jobs.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) supports young people to drive growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across Africa. There are three YALI programs in Kenya and East Africa: The **Mandela Washington Fellowship** provides skills and support for young African leaders through training and coursework at 40 U.S. universities. Thousands of young Africans have brought their experience back home to make a difference and lead a new generation. The **Regional Leadership Center for East Africa** in Nairobi, Kenya has trained over 1,600 young leaders from 14 East and Central African countries in business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, and public management with an eye toward regional networking and collaboration. The **YALI Network** provides online courses and a forum to equip young leaders with 21st century skills to transform their communities. The network includes 500,000 members continent-wide.

BUDGET (FY 2017)

\$17 million

KEY GOVERNMENT OF KENYA PARTNERS

- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Industrialization and associated Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies
- Ministry of Public Service and Youth

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

- Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development
- Kenyatta University
- Teachers Service Commission

PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS

- Coca-Cola Foundation
- Deloitte East Africa
- Equity Group Foundation
- McKinsey & Company
- MasterCard Foundation

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- Deloitte East Africa
- Equity Group Foundation
- Global Communities
- Kenya Community Development Foundation
- McKinsey Social Initiative
- RTI International

ACHIEVEMENTS SNAPSHOT (2017)

- 68% of learners demonstrate reading fluency and comprehension of grade level text at the end of grade 2
- 20,000 new or better jobs acquired by Kenyan youth
- Over 10,000 people benefited from community service initiatives led by YALI Regional Leadership Center alumni

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